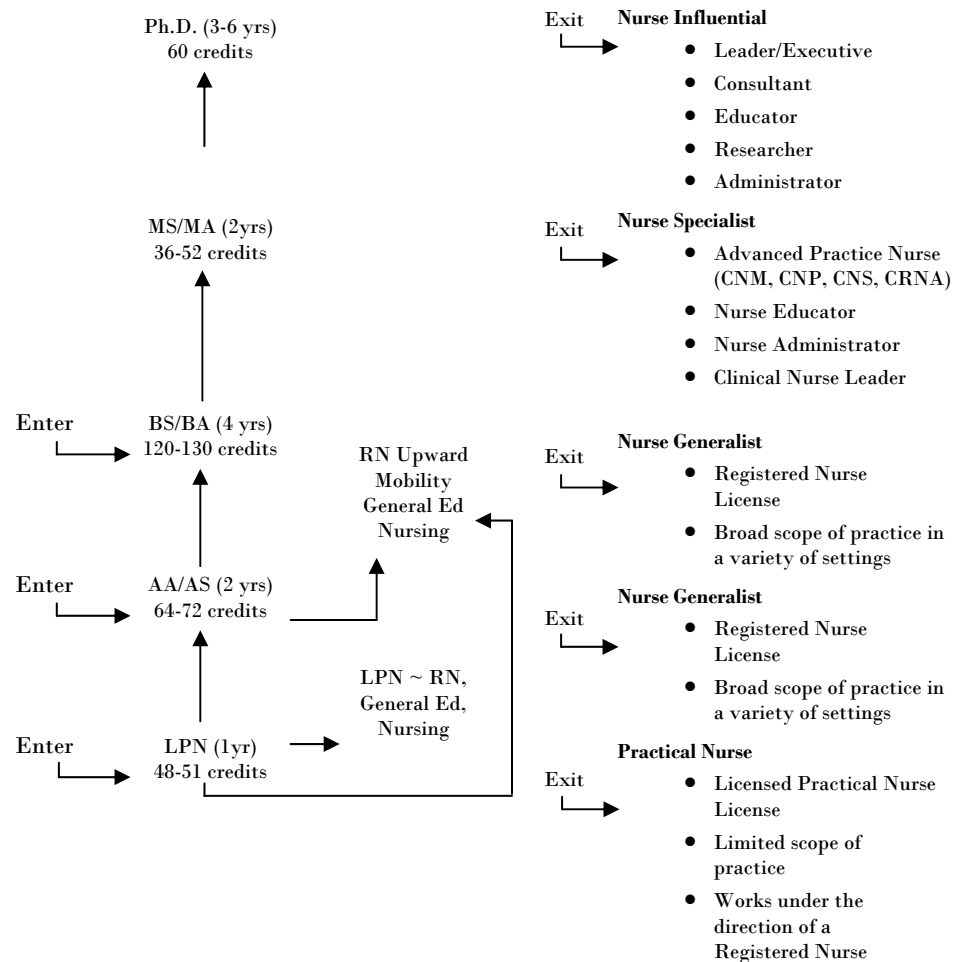
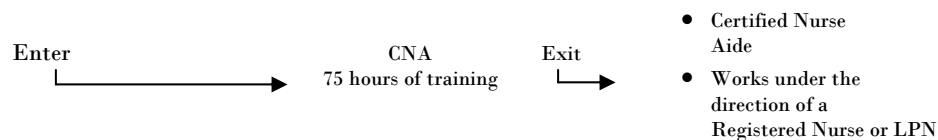


EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY IN NURSING IN SOUTH DAKOTA

LICENSED



UNLICENSED



**SOUTH DAKOTA NEDDS
NURSING EDUCATION
DEANS & DIRECTORS**



**SOUTH DAKOTA
CENTER FOR
NURSING WORKFORCE**

4305 S LOUISE AVENUE SUITE 201 ♦ SIOUX FALLS SD 57106
(605) 362-2760 ♦ www.state.sd.us/doh/nursing

PATHWAYS FOR UPWARD MOBILITY IN NURSING EDUCATION IN SOUTH DAKOTA

*Traditional
classroom
settings
and online
options
available
each step
of the way!*



A COMMITMENT TO CARING

A nursing career is designed for the person committed to caring for and about people and their health. Today, students with varied educational backgrounds and life experiences enter nursing education programs in South Dakota. Opportunities for different educational options are numerous; you are urged to explore the pathways available to determine which best suits your own personal goals.

Factors to consider:

- ◆ Cost and length of program
- ◆ Entrance requirements
- ◆ Geographic location
- ◆ Career goals
- ◆ Transfer of earned credits

This brochure illustrates pathways for movement from one nursing education program to another within South Dakota. Entering a higher level of nursing education or transferring between programs is facilitated through cooperation among all of the programs. Evaluating previous education minimizes repetition of content through transfer of credit, challenge or quality examinations, and specific articulation plans.



DIVERSE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Nursing is an exciting and challenging career choice!



Job opportunities are unlimited!

Demand for nurses has never been greater. Levels of education offered:

- ◆ Licensed Practical Nurse (1 year)
- ◆ Associate RN (2 years)
- ◆ Baccalaureate RN (4 years)
- ◆ Masters (Baccalaureate + 2 years)
- ◆ Doctoral (Masters + 3 years)

Practical programs prepare graduates for writing the NCLEX® LPN examination.

Associate and Baccalaureate level nursing education programs prepare graduates for writing the NCLEX® RN licensure examination.

In addition, Masters and PhD opportunities are available in graduate programs for Advanced Practice Nursing roles.



GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ◆ Each individual program has an identified mission and outcomes.
- ◆ Not all educational courses transfer as equivalent academic credit. It is extremely important that general education courses taken are transferable to all upward mobility programs.
- ◆ Clock hours, quarter and semester hours are not equivalent, but may be proportionately accepted.
- ◆ Methods for determining credit for prior learning include transcript evaluation, testing, portfolio development, and bridge courses. Blanket credits are not granted for previous experience or education.
- ◆ Clinical practice, supervised by an instructor, is expected in all programs to socialize and develop skills.

Specific Information available from individual Education Programs

- ◆ Tuition, fees, and residency requirements are determined by each institution.
- ◆ Courses may be offered off-campus and on flexible schedules to allow students to continue employment.
- ◆ Financial aid is based on scholarship, financial need, program costs, and institutional and/or government policies. For financial aid purposes, "full time" is at least 12 semester credit hours.
- ◆ 16 credit hours/semester is the usual expectation for full time study.
- ◆ Generally, the LPN may complete an associate degree in 2-3 semesters of full time study; the RN with an associate degree may complete baccalaureate requirements in 4-5 semesters full time.